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EO 12356: DECL: OADR
TAGS: SHUM OPRC PREL CI FRG
SUBJECT: CONGRESSIONAL INQUIRY ON RAUFF CASE

REF: STATE 096095

1. C-ENTIRE TEXT.

2. POST HAS RECEIVED INQUIRY DATED MARCH 27 FROM SENATOR RUDY BOSCHWITZ OF MINNESOTA ENCLOSING A LETTER FROM FRED WILDAUER OF MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA ASKING THAT THE SENATOR DO WHATEVER HE CAN TO BRING ABOUT THE EXTRADITION OF WALTER RAUFF. THE INQUIRY FROM THE SENATOR IS A ROUTINE CONGRESSIONAL LETTER ASKING FOR THE EMBASSY'S CONSIDERATION OF THE CONSTITUENT'S LETTER. WE UNDERSTAND FROM REFTEL AND STRONGLY AGREE THAT THE DEPARTMENT INTENDS TO PRESERVE THE CONFIDENTIALITY OF THE UGS ROLE IN THIS SENSITIVE MATTER, AND BELIEVE THEREFORE THAT A RESPONSE TO SENATOR BOSCHWITZ SHOULD BE DELIBERATELY NON-SPECIFIC. OUR INTENTION IS TO ANSWER ALONG THE FOLLOWING LINES:

"IT HAS BEEN LONGSTANDING U.S. POLICY TO SEEK TO HAVE ACCUSED NAZI WAR CRIMINALS BROUGHT TO JUSTICE. THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE HAS FOLLOWED THE RAUFF CASE CLOSELY AND HAS CONSULTED WITH OTHER INTERESTED GOVERNMENTS TO DETERMINE WHAT MIGHT BE DONE TO RETURN RAUFF TO GERMAN JURISDICTION. THE GOVERNMENT OF CHILE IS AWARE OF U.S. VIEWS ON THIS MATTER, BUT IT WOULD NOT BE APPROPRIATE OR USEFUL TO ENTER INTO THE DETAILS OF CONFIDENTIAL DIPLOMATIC COMMUNICATIONS".

3. REQUEST DEPARTMENT'S CONCURRENCE WITH THE PROPOSED RESPONSE.
THEBERGE

END OF MESSAGE

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State Dept. review completed

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